there was nearly \$35,000 expended for that purpose, furnished by the quartermaster's department. What become of the property? Was it, or any portion of it, ever returned? Certainly not. Here was an expenditure of mear \$35,000 of public money in sending a collector to California, when he could have gone there by Panama in five or six months less time for \$500, and should have paid his own expenses. He had as long a tail in his escort as a comet. A number of them, when they got to California at the expense of the Government, went their way—some to the gold diggings—not connecting themselves with the Government at all. I do not wish to do an injury to any person, but it is my duty to state these facts, when, as I believe, the malpractice of the officers of the Government in California is likely to do great injury to that State in the appropriations which she now asks, and so much needs. It is a painful duty to arraign any individual, but I must state that this collector notoriously violated the law, in seizing the cargoes of French ressels; that he confiscated those goods, and, in further violation of law, peddled them through the country; sold them here and there, and never made any return of the proceeds of the sales of these goods, or none that was intelligible. When his acts were disavowed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and he was ordered to return these goods, they had been thus disposed of, and we were compelled, in order to do justice to the citizens of France, to pass a law to pay them from the Treasury of the United States. Claims thus urising from the illegal acts of this collector to the amount of a million of dollars, as I was told by the French consul at San Francisco, have been presented to this Government, and have and now are being paid at greatly reduced estimates by the Secretary of the Treasury. Was not this a great abuse of power, which has resulted in a great loss to the Government? In addition to this, it was charged against this officer by members of his collector that the benevice of whi

AS I stated some time ago:

TREASERY DEPARTMENT, APRIL 2, 1849.

Sire: This will be handed to you by the Hon. T. Buller King, if there should be in his opinion occasion for so doing. The object of this letter is to impress upon you the desire of the President that you should, in all matters connected with Mr. King's mission, aid and assist him in carrying out the views of the Government as expressed in his instructions from the Department of State, and that you should be guided by his advice and counsel in the conduct of all proper measures within the scope of those instructions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. Meredith,

Secretary of the Treasury.

James Collier, Esq.,
Collector of the Customs, Upper California.
About the same time, in 1849, a gentleman from the State of Missouri, General John Wilson, was appointed an Indian agent for Salt Lake; and he also was furnished with an extravagant outfit and escort to conduct him

to his agency.

He went to the Salt Lake, and stayed there long enough to write a letter or two. He then went to California with his family, his books, and his baggage of all descriptions. He was an emigrant, moving at the Government expense. He reached the valley of the Sacramento about the com-

ted States to sink their ships, and starve the people into obedience.

When intelligence of this expected collision between the people of California and those in command of the Government forces reached here, was the conduct of these officers censured? Not at all. It was silently acquiesced in, and therefore tacitly approved.

I have thus stated, at some length, the history of events in California, which resulted in the collection of what is known there as the "civil fund;" and will be pretty well known here by the same title before you are done with it. The temptation to use it for objects not provided for by any law could not be resisted; and thus was laid the foun-

government.

"All drafts upon these deposites by the disbursing officers of the army have been considered as loans, to be replaced after the action of Congress shall have been had in relation to the fond." These extracts show an extraordinary state of affairs.
The \$150,000 taken out by Mojet Victor and Little act

Someway of War, the assumption of cells submitted by commonly one of the commonly of the commo

ment with him; but the head of the War Department, differed from General Smith, should have disapproved a cte, as did the Secretary of the Navy, by not cargout the recommendation of Commodore Jones, until approved and sanctioned by Congress.

Any length to the notice of the Senate the enormous additure of the War Department in California not aured by law, and sanctioned by the head of the Department, in order to show the contrast in the other Department, of the Government. I will refer first to the Department, which was cautious in adopting the remediations of the commodore in command on the Painvolving the expenditure of large sums of money, Congress was consulted. The navy could not particulate in the brilliant achievements of the Mexican war, exico had no navy to contend with on the ocean.

the state above by the Quastremanter General, yet, I have been in the plant that will take will collect the chairmant of the Common terms and the origin of the said of the Common Committee as the foreign of the said of the Common Committee as the foreign of the said of the Common Committee as the foreign of the said of the Common Common